## BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES STATE OF UTAH

DEC 0 1 2015

SECRETARY, BOARD OF OIL, GAS & MINING

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST FOR AGENCY ACTION OF RIG II, LLC, FOR AN ORDER FORCE POOLING THE INTERESTS OF ALL OWNERS REFUSING TO AGREE TO LEASE THEIR INTERESTS OR OTHERWISE BEAR THEIR PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE **COSTS OF DRILLING OPERATIONS** FOR THE PAPPADAKIS #15-24-2-1E WELL IN THE DRILLING UNIT ESTABLISHED BY THE ORDER IN **CAUSE NO. 139-42, COMPRISING SECTION 24, TOWNSHIP 2 SOUTH,** RANGE 1 EAST, U.S.M., WITHIN THE GREATER ALTAMONT-BLUEBELL AREA, UINTAH COUNTY, UTAH, FOR THE PRODUCTION OF OIL AND GAS FROM THE LOWER GREEN RIVER AND WASATCH FORMATIONS.

MOTION TO DISMISS BIRFURCATED PORTION OF REQUEST FOR AGENCY ACTION

**Docket No. 2014-44** 

Cause No. 139-26

RIG II, LLC ("RIG II"), by and through its counsel of record, moves the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining ("Board"), pursuant to R641-105-300 of Utah Admin. Code (2014), to continue this matter until the regularly scheduled hearing on January 28, 2015. The grounds for the Motion are as follows:

1. RIG II filed its Request for Agency Action ("Request") on November 12, 2014, requesting the Board to differentiate the correlative rights in the Spaced Interval in the Drilling Unit described in the above caption, to quantify those rights for proper allocation of costs for production, to involuntarily pool those oil and gas interests not heretofore voluntarily pooled, to

assess the risk compensation award, and to make other findings, as required by *Utah Code Annotated* § 40-6-6.5 (West Supp. 2014).

- 2. RIG II subsequently filed a Motion to Bifurcate Hearing to exclude lands owned by the State Road Commission, (now Utah Department of Transportation) ("UDOT Lands") managed by and through the Division of Fire, Forestry and State Lands ("DFFSL") and lands held by the United States, as trustee, and for the Heirs and/or Devisees of Che-aga-rah, aka Henry Reeve, and of George Parvedro, allottees, of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation ("Excluded Lands"), and to continue consideration of the Excluded Lands and their owner's interests to a subsequent hearing. The Board granted the motion by bench ruling at the hearing.
- 3. The Board heard this matter at its regularly scheduled hearing on January 28, 2015; and on March 16, 2015, entered its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order ("Order") force pooling those interests that were not excluded from the January 28, 2015 hearing.
- 4. Since entering the Order, RIG II has requested, and the Board has granted, a number of continuances, allowing RIG II the opportunity to finalize the process of procuring leases for the excluded lands.

## **UDOT Lands**

5. In June of 2015, DFFSL leased the UDOT Lands to Anderson Exploration Company ("Anderson"). See Exhibit 36. Anderson subsequently assigned the Anderson lease covering the UDOT Lands to Badlands Energy—Utah, LLC ("Badlands"). See Exhibit 37. Badlands and RIG II have entered a cooperative relationship under an Agreement of Mutual Interest regarding the subject lands. See Exhibit 38.

6. DFFSL consented to the pooling of the UDOT Lands pursuant to the Declaration of Pooled Unit. *See* Exhibit 39. Therefore, RIG II no longer seeks to force pool the interests within the UDOT Lands.

## **Indian Lands**

- 7. On October 21, 2015, the Acting Superintendent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Uintah and Ouray Agency, executed Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Lease Allotted Indian Lands 14-20-H62-6568 for and in behalf of the heirs and devisees of Che-aga-rah, aka Henry Reeve, to Rig II. *See* Exhibit 40.
- 8. Also on October 21, 2015, the Acting Superintendent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Uintah and Ouray Agency, issued Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Lease Allotted Indian Lands 14-20-H62-6569 for and in behalf of the heirs and devisees of George Parvedo, allottee, to RIG, II LLC. *See* Exhibit 41.
- 9. RIG II is pursuing the execution of a communitization agreement under which the Indian Lands will be voluntarily pooled with other lands in the drilling unit.

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10. Counsel for the Division has authorized RIG II to acknowledge that the Division has consented the admission of the RIG II's Exhibits Nos. 35 through 41 and disposition of the matter in this fashion.

Wherefore, in light of the foregoing facts, RIG II moves the Board to enter an order (a) acknowledging the voluntary pooling of the UDOT Lands and Lease, (b) acknowledging the issuance of the Indian Leases, and (c) dismissing the Request for Agency Action insofar as it

applies to the Excluded Lands.

Dated this day of December, 2015.

Phillip Wm. Lea

Hifford B. Parkinson

Attorneys for RIG II